

*panama*  
*Katimer 5/4/73*

1. Dr. Kissinger appreciates Mr. Ismail's message of May 3 as conveyed  and regrets brief delay in replying.

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2. Dr. Kissinger believes that while Madrid has advantages from the point of view of security, it will be next to impossible for Dr. Kissinger to get there secretly, especially as Dr. Kissinger will be in Paris negotiating with the North Vietnamese.

3. Dr. Kissinger therefore proposes meeting in Paris the morning of May 19, 20, and 21 with his afternoon meetings with the North Vietnamese serving as cover. Dr. Kissinger agrees that the French Government should be informed. The U.S. and Egyptian side should agree on a simultaneous approach. Both sides should emphasize the need for secrecy.

4. Dr. Kissinger will inform the Soviet Union of the upcoming meeting at some point during his talks in Moscow. Mr. Ismail is free to inform the Soviet Ambassador similarly at any time after May 5.

5. The U.S. looks forward to this round of talks with the hope of making progress. Dr. Kissinger personally looks forward with pleasure to meeting Mr. Ismail again.

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